

## ABSTRACT

5 A mandibular advancement, or positioning, device for short-term or one-time  
use is described. The appliance has an upper tray and a lower tray holding  
impression material, into which the patient bites. The impression material, and  
optional adhesive, serve as a way to secure the trays to the patient's upper and lower  
teeth, and, therefore, to the patient's maxilla and mandible. Preferably, the front  
10 portions of the trays are bendable or flexible, for allowing the use of just a few sizes of  
trays for all patients. A connector is attached to a rear area of the lower tray and  
adjustably connects to the upper tray at or near the center of the upper tray front area,  
so that the connector easily may be manually pulled forward and temporarily locked in  
place to advance the mandible. The device may also include spacers or bite planes  
15 for opening the patient's bite. The device is particularly useful for short-term use in  
applications which do not require long-term comfort and durability, such as sleep-lab  
testing of the usefulness of mandibular advancement in treating a particular patient, or  
as a step in surgical anesthesia to enlarge a patient's pharyngeal airway space.